



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi NOMURA et al.

Confirmation No.: 6245

Appln. No. : 09/961,233

Group Art Unit: 2872

Filed : September 24, 2001

Examiner: J. L. Pritchett

For : LENS BARREL

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed June 20, 2004, setting forth a three-month shortened statutory period for response to expire on September 20, 2004, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the following:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 6.